AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for moving exchanging shears in the lateral cutting to length of strips or sheet metal in a rolling or transport line on a rolling table, with blade holders, one arranged above and one arranged below the strip or sheet metal, the method comprising guiding the blade holders via holding elements, moving the shears, together with the blade holders and with the holding elements for the blade holders, after each cut ~~out of the rolling line~~ laterally out of the rolling line into a neutral waiting position, while the strip or sheet metal is in the rolling or transport line, and, before moving out the shears, opening a forward connection between the blade holders or between the holding elements overlapping the rolling line, the forward connection being formed by a clamping element that couples the holding elements at a common end of the blade holders,

and, only for a subsequent lateral cut of the strip, moving the shears into the rolling or transport line so as to overlap the rolling or transport line in a U-shape, wherein the forward connection is closed by a form-fit/frictional connection between the clamping element and the holding elements ~~and, by employing a clamping element, is form-fit connected and frictionally connected~~ before a subsequent cut, wherein, when moving the shears into the rolling or transport line, a part of the rolling table is simultaneously moved laterally out of the rolling or transport line and, simultaneously with moving the shears out of the rolling or transport line into the waiting position, the part of the rolling table is again moved into the rolling and transport line.

2. (Currently amended) A device for moving ~~exchanging~~ shears in the lateral cutting to length of strips or sheet metal in a rolling or transport line on a rolling table, wherein the shears, inclusive of a drive apparatus, are arranged on a rail-guided drive carriage which, while the strip or sheet metal is positioned in the rolling or transport line, is movable by means of a drive transverse to the rolling or transport line, wherein the shears comprise a U-shaped frame

open toward the rolling or transport line and closed at a drive side, on the U-shaped ~~which~~ frame, at the drive side as well as a rolling table side which is opposite the drive side, holding elements are provided that support blade holders, and wherein the drive carriage is coupled with a movable part of the rolling table that moves laterally to the rolling or transport line.

3. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 2, wherein the drive carriage at the rolling table side receives at least one clamping element with actuating members.

4. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 2, wherein the U-shaped frame has correlated therewith a clamping element coupled with the holding element at the rolling table side.

5. (Previously presented) A device according to claim 2, wherein a clamping element is provided with coupling elements that couple with the holding elements of ~~the~~ frame arms of the frame.

6. (Currently amended) A device for moving ~~exchanging~~ shears in

the cutting to length of strips or sheet metal in a rolling or transport line on a rolling table, wherein the shears, inclusive of a drive apparatus, are arranged on a rail-guided drive carriage which, while the strip or sheet metal is positioned in the rolling or transport line, is movable by means of a drive transverse to the rolling or transport line, wherein the shears comprise a U-shaped frame open toward the rolling or transport line and closed at a drive side, on the U-shaped ~~which~~ frame, at the drive side as well as a rolling table side which is opposite the drive side, holding elements are provided that support blade holders, and wherein the drive carriage is coupled with a movable part of the rolling table, wherein at least one of the holding elements at an open side ~~a free end~~ of an upper, horizontal ~~frame~~ arm of the U-shaped frame comprises at least one pressure plate ~~(23, 23')~~ and a clamping element has congruent gliding plates for overlapping the pressure plate, and that the clamping element is movable by force means on a horizontal gliding path with its gliding plates across the at least one pressure plate for generating a form-fit/frictional ~~form-fit coupling and a frictional~~ coupling.

7. (Currently amended) A device for moving exchanging shears in

the cutting to length of strips or sheet metal in a rolling or transport line on a rolling table, wherein the shears, inclusive of a drive apparatus, are arranged on a rail-guided drive carriage which, while the strip or sheet metal is positioned in the rolling or transport line, is movable by means of a drive transverse to the rolling or transport line, wherein the shears comprise a U-shaped frame open toward the rolling or transport line and closed at a drive side, on the U-shaped ~~which~~ frame, at the drive side as well as a rolling table side which is opposite the drive side, holding elements are provided that support blade holders, and wherein the drive carriage is coupled with a movable part of the rolling table, wherein at least one of the holding elements at an open side ~~a free end~~ of an upper horizontal ~~frame~~ arm of the U-shaped frame is provided with threaded spindle coupling rods connected so as to be pivotable to both the drive side and the rolling table side, which, by means of recesses, are engageable in congruent coupling sockets of a lower frame arm or in the congruent coupling sockets of the holding element and adjustable by a force means for generating a form-fit and frictional connection with their spindle drives.

8. (Currently amended) A device for moving ~~exchanging~~ shears in

the cutting to length of strips or sheet metal in a rolling or transport line on a rolling table, wherein the shears, inclusive of a drive apparatus ~~(8)~~, are arranged on a rail-guided drive carriage which, while the strip or sheet metal is positioned in the rolling or transport line, is movable by means of a drive transverse to the rolling or transport line, wherein the shears comprise a U-shaped frame open toward the rolling or transport line and closed at a drive side, on the U-shaped ~~which~~ frame, at the drive side as well as a rolling table side which is opposite the drive side, holding elements are provided that support blade holders, and wherein the drive carriage is coupled with a movable part of the rolling table, and further comprising a clamping element correlated transversely to two frame arms of the U-shaped frame, wherein the clamping element can be folded upwardly by means of a joint with a pivot axis extending parallel to the rolling or transport line with the aid of at least one force means for coupling of the two frame arms or folded down for releasing the coupling of the frame arms.